

Lieutenant General Edward Hanlon Jr., USMC
Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat
Development Command;
Deputy Commandant for Combat Development

Lieutenant General Edward Hanlon, Jr. is currently serving as the Commanding General, Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, VA and Deputy Commandant for Combat Development, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

General Hanlon is a 1966 graduate of Southeastern Oklahoma University where he earned a B.S. degree in Business Administration. He also holds masters degrees from Pepperdine University (1977), and the University of Minnesota (1981).



He entered the Marine Corps through the Officer Candidates School at Quantico, VA in 1967, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in November 1967. Upon completion of The Basic School at Quantico in April 1968, he went on to the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Sill, OK, graduating in August 1968.

General Hanlon served in Vietnam from September 1968 until October 1969, as the Assistant Executive Officer, Fire Direction Officer, and Executive Officer of a firing battery with the 1st Battalion, 13th Marines. Upon returning to the United States, he was assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, DC, as the Assistant S-3 Legal Officer and Public Affairs Officer for Headquarters Battalion and as Executive Officer of Company A. During this assignment, he was promoted to captain in April 1971. He returned to Fort Sill in October 1972, as a student in the Field Artillery Officer Advanced Course, graduating in August 1973.

From September 1973 until September 1974, General Hanlon was assigned to the 3d Marine Division on Okinawa, where he served as the Battalion S-4 for the 2d Battalion 12th Marines, and later as Commanding Officer, E Battery. Transferring back to the states in October 1974, he returned to The Basic School at Quantico for duty as Executive Officer of Training Support Company, Commanding Officer of Enlisted Instructor Company; and Executive Officer of Company M.

In July 1977, General Hanlon was assigned to the NROTC Unit at the University of Minnesota for duty as the Marine Officer Instructor. He also served as the Executive Officer for the NROTC Unit (1979), and as Executive Officer and Commanding Officer of the summer OCS Bulldog companies. He was promoted to major in October 1978.

From August 1980 to June 1981, he was a student at the Marine Corps Command and Staff College at Quantico. The following month, he reported to the 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, CA, where he served as the Battalion S-4 for the 2d Battalion, 11th Marines; Executive Officer of 3d Battalion, 11th Marines; and Division Staff Secretary. In October 1983, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel.

General Hanlon was then ordered in May 1984 to the 3d Marine Division for duty as Commanding Officer, 3d Battalion, 12th Marines. The following May, he returned to Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, for duty as the Director of Personal Services. From August 1986 through June 1987, he was a student at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces in Washington, D.C.

Returning overseas in July 1987, General Hanlon was assigned to Headquarters FMF Europe in London, United Kingdom, for duty as the Assistant Chief of Staff for Plans (G-5) and for Operations (G-3). He was promoted to colonel in August 1989. In September 1990, he reported to the U.S. Atlantic Fleet for duty as the Fleet Marine Officer. General Hanlon was assigned duty as Commanding Officer of the 10th Marines, 2d Marine Division in April 1992. While serving in this capacity, he was selected in March 1993 for promotion to brigadier general. He was advanced to brigadier general on July 8, 1993, and was assigned as the Deputy Commander, Naval Striking and Support Forces, Southern Europe, Naples, Italy, where he served until July 1996.

He was promoted to Major General on July 1, 1996, and was assigned duty as the Director, Expeditionary Warfare Division (N85) where he served until August 1998. On August 21, 1998 to June 15, 2001, Major General Hanlon served as the Commanding General of Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton. He was promoted to Lieutenant General on 11 July 2001 and assumed command of Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, VA.

His decorations include: Defense Superior Service Medal with oak leaf, Legion of Merit with two gold stars, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat "V" and gold star, and the Combat Action Ribbon.